

Minority Business Enterprise Compliance Office

Certification Review Committee (CRC)

Minutes of the Meeting

October 20, 2010

A meeting of the Certification Review Committee (CRC) was held at the Rhode Island Department of Administration, One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI 02908, on Wednesday, October 20, 2010. The meeting was called to order at 2:07 p.m. with a quorum being declared present. Members in attendance: Charles Newton, Louise Anderson, and Olayinka Oredugba. Members absent: Denise Correy and Muraina Akinfolarin. Also in attendance were Patsy Peterson and Dorinda Keene, staff to the CRC.

The Minutes of the September 15, 2010 meeting were reviewed. After some discussion, a motion was made and properly seconded to approve the Minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

The Certification Review Committee reviewed recommendations of the MBE Compliance Office regarding the application submitted on behalf of the following firms:

- a) Anand Real Estate Services MBE/DBE RI**
- b) Asset Performance Management, Inc. WBE/DBE MA**
- c) Cheng Solutions, LLC M/W/DBE NY**
- d) Evelyn Audet Lighting Design WBE/DBE RI**

e) Partners in Healthcare Management Solutions, LLC WBE/DBE RI

f) Steere Engineering, Inc. WBE/DBE RI

After some discussion, a motion was made and properly seconded to approve the certification of these firms in the DBE program as administered by those transportation agencies governed by 49 CFR. Motion carried unanimously. A second motion was made and properly seconded to approve these DBE certified companies in the State of Rhode Island's MBE program. Motion carried unanimously.

The Certification Review Committee reviewed recommendations of the MBE Compliance Office regarding the applications submitted on behalf of the following firms:

a) General Safety Services Corporation WBE/DBE MA

b) Gentry, Inc. WBE/DBE RI

After some discussion, a motion was made and properly seconded to notify these firms of the need for a hearing based upon issues of control, dependency, the appearance that the firms were structured in order to take advantage of the MBE and DBE programs and/or based upon issues of timeline and composition of multiple companies. Motion carried unanimously.

Hearings:

VJ Associates of New England, Inc. – This firm was scheduled for a hearing based upon issues of economic disadvantage. The MBE Compliance Office was contacted by the legal counsel for the applicant, who indicated that the applicant would not be attending the hearing in order to provide testimony. After some discussion, a motion was made and properly seconded to deny certification based upon the issue of economic disadvantage. Motion carried unanimously.

Newton Contracting Company, Inc., d/b/a Newton Roofing Co. – A hearing was conducted before the CRC regarding the application for certification submitted on behalf of Newton Contracting Company, Inc., and was attended by Ms. Antoinette Capurso-Bryan, President of the applicant firm, as well as by Yureidy Medina, Administrative Assistant, and by Amanda Beaudoin, Office Manager. After questioning by the members of the CRC regarding issues of control, dependency, compensation, affiliation with non-minority firms, and the appearance that the firm was structured in order to take advantage of the MBE program, a motion was made to approve certification in order to get to discussion / deliberation. The motion was duly seconded. After considerable discussion, the motion was called to vote, with one vote for approval of certification (Oredugba) and two votes against the motion for approval (Newton & Anderson). The motion was defeated and the applicant firm was denied certification.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 4:34 p.m. The next meeting of the CRC is scheduled for Wednesday, November 17, 2010 at 2:00 p.m.